(c), (d) and (e) Yes, Sir. Roads are declared as NHs not on the basis of any area, region; State or population level, but are considered keeping in view the country as a whole vis-a-vis fulfilment of criteria for new National Highways, proximity of other National Highways and the availability of funds for the purpose.

Length of National Highways in the Country

1957. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV:

SHRI SHANKARRAO NARAYANRAO DESHMUKH:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total length in Kms. of national highways in the country;

(b) what is the length of national highways in Maharashtra;

(c) whether there are any new proposals from Maharashtra regarding national highways; and

(d) if so, what action is taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) 32,138 Kms.

(b) 2,888 Kms.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. However, owing to meagre allocation earmarked for new National Highways in the current Plan, it is not possible at present to make new additions in the National Highways network in Maharashtra.

Day Train between Jammu Tawi and Delhi

1958. SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a long standing demand of the people of Jammu and Kashmir for a day time railway train between Jammu Tawi and Delhi; and

(b) whether Government propose to start such a train in view of influx of fifteen lakh pilgrims who visit Vaishno Devi cave shrine in Jammu and five lakh tourists who visit Kashmir every year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir. Suggestions have been received to this effect.

(b) Seven pairs of trains are already available between Jammu Tawi and Delhi. Due to inadequate terminal facilities at Jammu Tawi and shortage of coaches and locomotives the proposal is not feasible at present.

Indian Delegation to World Sanskrit Conference

1959. SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that World Sanskrit Conference is being held at Liedon (Holland) this year in which Sanskrit Scholars from all over the world are participating;

(b) whether his Ministry is also sending a delegation there; and

(c) if so, how many delegates are being sent and what are their qualifications and status?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government has not taken a decision so far.

Porters as Regular Employees of Railways

1960. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to employ the porters as regular employees of Indian Railways; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Porters are licensees of the Railways and earn their wages direct from the passengers for carrying their luggage. There is no proposal, therefore, to employ them as regular employees of the Railways.

National Institute of Maternal and Child Health

1961. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV:

SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA JAYAWANTRAO PATIL:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to establish a National Institute of Maternal and Child Health in the country during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) the number of the State Governments which have sent their suggestions with the name of locations;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government of Maharashtra have requested to start this institute at Nagpur named after Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru; and

(d) if so, what is the decision taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Seven State Governments have sent their proposals. The names of locations are Hyderabad, Trivandrum, Nagpur, Allahabad, Calcutta, Patiala and Jodhpur.

(c) Government of Maharashtra have proposed Nagpur as the location.

(d) Decision will be taken after the Expert Group submits its Report.

राष्ट्रीय पुस्तक न्यास (नेशनल बुक ट्रस्ट)

1962. **श्रीमती वीणा वर्मा :** क्या **मानव संसाधन विकास** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि राष्ट्रीय पुस्तक न्यास के निदेशक का पद खाली पड़ा है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो कब से और इस पद के अभी तक भरे न जाने के क्या कारण हैं ; और

(ग) राष्ट्रीय पुस्तक न्यास के ढांचे में सुधार करने के लिए सरकार क्या कदम उठाने का विचार रखती है ?

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय में शिक्षा और संस्कृति विभागों में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती कृष्णा साही) : (क) और (ख) राष्ट्रीय पुस्तक न्यास, भारत के निदेशक का पद 1 नवम्बर, 1985 से रिक्त पड़ा है । राष्ट्रीय पुस्तक न्यास के भूतपूर्व अध्यक्ष, को अध्यक्षता में चयन समिति ने